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were manifested, and the animal at length revived. It was proved, that opium and marine salt were of little, or no use.

Doctor Delile and Magendie, having fully ascertained the action of the *Upas ticuli*, *nux vomica* and *Ignatia amara*, on the spinal marrow, are of opinion, that they may be employed as useful remedies in palsy, and other diseases, which are occasioned by an atony of the spinal marrow, as they powerfully stimulate all the muscles, which receive their nerves from that important organ.

Paris, August 12th, 1809.

T the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

IN your Magazine for December, 1812, your correspondent Marcellus writes on Music, with a degree of enthusiasm, which is very natural to the youthful mind, on looking merely at one side of the question; but as the "animated no," so finely described by Cowper in his *Task*, has a tendency to make a person more minutely examine the principles on which he founds his judgment, I beg leave to make some remarks on the subject of music.

I willingly admit, that music is a pleasing and delightful amusement, but I think there is great danger of attaching too much importance to it, and of suffering it to engross too much time and attention. In order that a person may excel in music, some hours every day must be devoted to practising, and life is too short to permit us to lose much time in trifling pursuits. It may be said, that the mind must be occupied, and that a little amusement is very allowable; but surely there are few persons who would not feel more true rational pleasure, after having spent their leisure hours in instruc-

tive reading, than if they had employed themselves in hearing the most delightful music.

I think Marcellus is too severe in his censure on those who disapprove of music. He brands them with the names of "prodigies of nature." "astonishing miracles of dulness and stupidity," and then quotes Shakespear to prove, that "this extraordinary want of sensibility is characteristic of moral depravity." Although Shakespear should tell us, that

....."He that is not mov'd
By the concord of sweet sounds; him trust
not,
Nature has form'd him for the blackest
deeds:"

or Lavater in his *Aphorisms on man*, should say, "Keep three paces distant from him who hates music," I will still maintain my opinion, that it is possible to disapprove of music, and yet to possess every amiable quality that adorns and dignifies human nature. My opinion is not merely theoretical, for I have the happiness of considering as my best and most valued friend, a gentleman, who disapproves of music, not because he has any cynical asperity in his disposition, but because he thinks, music has "an evident tendency to enervate the mind," and that "there are higher and more important employments for beings such as man."

It is very erroneous, in expressing an opinion on any subject, to condemn a person, because he may happen to form a different opinion, and we should be equally careful, not to make one general rule, by which to judge of all mankind. Marcellus has an undoubted right to admire music, but he should permit others to form a different opinion, without branding them with opprobrious epithets.

PORCIA.